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I hereby certify that this paper, together with all enclosures identified therein, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

<u>March 25, 20</u>04

Kimberley J. Cousineau

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: Philip O. Gerard

Appin. No.

: 10/689,229 (unofficial)

Filing Date

: October 20, 2003 (unofficial)

For

: WHEEL CLAD ASSEMBLY

Commissioner For Patents Post Office Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

A check of our files indicates that the above-identified application has been filed more than five (5) months without the filing receipt being received by us. Therefore, please give us the status of the above application. This request is made to avoid any lack of diligence being attributed to the Applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

PHILIP O. GERARD

By:

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Dated: March 25, 2004

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